

*Welcome to  
Rookhope  
Pre-School*



**Head teacher: Mr I. Carroll**

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**Website: [www.rookhope.durham.sch.uk](http://www.rookhope.durham.sch.uk)**

**Meet the Staff:**

EYFS/KS1 teacher: Miss L Woods

**Nursery Times:**

Monday to Friday: 12.00—15.15

Children should be brought to the main door for 12pm and collected from here at 15.15.

Your child will be joining us for lunch; you can either provide a packed lunch or purchase a school lunch at a cost of £2 per day. If you wish to change your lunch option two weeks notice must be given.



## Ways to help your child

Please ensure that your child is brought to and from school on time each day by an adult they know. If there is to be any change in arrangements please can you let us know as soon as possible to prevent any confusion.

Please make sure your child has appropriate clothing for the weather. We aim to go into the outdoor classroom in all weathers and your child will need to wear appropriate clothing for the conditions. We do have a supply of waterproof trousers and boots that your child may borrow. We would advise that your child keep a full change of clothing on their peg in case of accidents. This should be in a named bag (not a plastic carrier bag). Bags with the school logo can be purchased from us if you wish, please see Mrs Barnwell for a list of current prices.

Please make sure that the clothes your children wear are easy to play in. They need to be able to play comfortably to access all areas of the curriculum. They may get a little dirty some days and need to feel comfortable to do so. We do provide aprons for the children to wear when they are playing in messy areas. There is no requirement for your child to wear school uniform whilst they are in Pre-school, however should you wish to purchase uniform, please see Mrs Barnwell for further details and prices.



## What will your child be learning in Pre-school?

Pre-school age children learn by playing and exploring, being active and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside. Your child's learning will be planned following the guidance laid out in the Statutory Framework for the Early Years. All aspects of children's growth and development are woven together but they can be separated into 7 different areas of learning. Below you can see a breakdown of each area of learning and development.

### **The Prime Areas:**

#### **1. Communication and Language:**

Involves giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment; to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves; and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

#### **2. Physical development:**

Involves providing opportunities for young children to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control and movement.

Children must also be helped to understand the importance of physical activity, and to make healthy choices in relation to food.



#### **3. Personal, social and emotional development**

Involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves and to others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in their own abilities.



**The Specific areas:**

**4. Literacy:**

Involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write.

Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems and other written materials) to engage their interests

**5. Mathematics:**

Involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces and measures.



**6. Understanding the World:**

Involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

## 7. Expressive arts and design:

Involves enabling children to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, as well as providing opportunities and encouragement for sharing their thoughts, ideas and feelings through a variety of activities in art, music, movement, dance, role play and design and technology.



## Parents as Partners

As parents, you are the most important people in your child's life and you have the best knowledge of your child's abilities and interests. We will regularly liaise with you and share your child's progress and Learning Journey with you. However if you have any concerns or matters you wish to discuss at any time, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Woods or Mrs Hodgkinson.